

WATER BOARD MINUTES

July 21, 2014

**Service Center Conference Room
1100 S. Sherman Street
Longmont, CO 80501**

REGULAR MEETING

The July 21, 2014 meeting of the Longmont Water Board was called to order by Chairman Bruning at 3:00 p.m. at the Service Center Water Conference Room.

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: John Bruning, John Caldwell, Renee Davis, Dave Swenson and Todd Williams.

City Staff Members Present: Ken Huson, Nelson Tipton, Wes Lowrie, Kevin Boden and Cindy Sater.

Chairman Bruning welcomed new Water Board member Renee Davis.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

Motion was made by Board member Caldwell to approve Water Board's June 16, 2014 minutes as written; motion was seconded by Board member Swenson. Motion was passed unanimously 5-0.

3. WATER STATUS REPORT

On behalf of the Water Commissioner, staff member, Wes Lowrie, gave the current water status report. The Lyons gage at 2:15 p.m. today was 138 cfs with an historical average of 242 cfs on this date. Ralph Price Reservoir at Button Rock Preserve was at 6,384.7 feet equaling 13,014 acre feet, down approximately 3,183 acre feet. The call on the St. Vrain Creek is the Highland Ditch, admin no. 8004. Reservoirs in the St. Vrain system were 89 percent full on June 30th. There is currently 130 cfs being released from Ralph Price Reservoir. The level of Ralph Price Reservoir in Button Rock Preserve is being kept down in order to continue working on woody debris removal. Snow pack data is no longer being reported as the levels have melted out where the Snowtel stations are located.

4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There was no public in attendance.

5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

There were no agenda revisions submitted to Water Board. Staff member Nelson Tipton submitted articles from DenverPost.com pertaining to the proposed public initiatives, agenda item 8-A.

6. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

A. Development Activity Requiring Water Board Action

There were no development activities requiring Water Board action this month.

B. Development Activity Submitted for Water Board Information Only

There were no development activities submitted for information to Water Board this month.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Annual Water Lease Resolution

Staff member, Nelson Tipton reviewed with Water Board the draft Council Communication and resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works and Natural Resources or his designee to enter into agreements, leases, and exchanges, concerning one-year or less water rental, surplus raw water rental and water rights during the 2015 water year. The 2015 water year begins November 1, 2014. Water Board agreed with staff recommendations that the City enter into exchange agreements and renewal of existing leases at the beginning of the 2015 water year and wait until after April 15, 2015 to determine whether to lease out additional surplus water based on the City's then existing water supply status.

A motion was made by Board member Williams for Water Board to recommend to City Council to approve the resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works and Natural Resources or his designee to enter into agreements and exchanges concerning surplus raw water and water rights during the 2015 water year. Board member Caldwell seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A. Proposed Public Trust Doctrine Initiatives No.89 and No.103

Staff member, Nelson Tipton discussed *Denver Post* articles regarding the proposed Public Trust Doctrine Initiatives No. 89 and No.103. Nelson informed the Board that a decision was reached by the Colorado Supreme Court on whether the title setting for both proposed initiatives violated the single subject requirement. Initiative No.89 was approved and will move forward for signatures which will be due by August 4, 2014. Initiative No.103 will not proceed forward due to procedures not being followed correctly, with supporters planning to return in 2016.

- Initiative No.89: An amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning a public right to Colorado's environment, and, in connection therewith, declaring that Colorado's environment is the common property of all Coloradan's, e.g.
- Initiative No.103: An amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning public ownership of natural and environmental resources, and in connection therewith, creating a public trust in those resources, which include clean air, clean water, and the preservation of the environment and natural resources, e.g.

B. Colorado River Recovery Program Update

Staff member, Ken Huson reported on the Colorado River recovery project. The City of Longmont participates financially along with a group of water users through Colorado Water Congress to ensure that Longmont can continue diverting C-BT and Windy Gap water through the Colorado-Big Thompson Project system. A requirement to furnish a permanent source of water for the 15 Mile Reach near Grand Junction has been satisfied which helps fish passage along the Colorado River. A request by water users has been submitted to the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and Colorado Parks and Wildlife asking for immediate action to reduce the impacts of nonnative fish on endangered fish. Ken asked Water Board for feedback on this issue. Members of Congress have raised concerns regarding the \$400 Million allocated to the recovery efforts and whether it has increased the population of the endangered fish species since the beginning of the project.

C. Saint Vrain Creek Flood Recovery Update

Staff member, Ken Huson updated Water Board on the progress of flood recovery efforts along Saint Vrain Creek including the following topics:

- Funding sources available to repair the Saint Vrain Creek channel from Martin Street to Hover Road.

- Application for an alternate project to build a 100-year flood plain through Longmont.
- Bonus Ditch diversion relocation.
- Status of bridge replacements at Main Street, Pratt Street and Sunset Street.
- Saint Vrain Creek Recovery Master Plan.
- Road and bridge conditions up to the Button Rock area.

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD

A. Review of Major Project Listing & Items Tentatively Scheduled for Future Board Meetings

Water Board's major project listing included in the packet was reviewed.

10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND WATER BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Informational items were included in the Water Board packet.

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before Water Board, Chairman Bruning asked for a motion for adjournment.

A motion for adjournment was made by Board member Swenson; the motion was seconded by Board member Williams. Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Bruning, at 4:10 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Longmont Water Board will be held on August 18, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. at the Service Center, 1100 South Sherman Street, Longmont, CO 80501.

John Bruning, Water Board Chair

Date

Cindy Sater, Recording Secretary

Date